

Dropout Prevention and School Attendance

Briefing for the Commission on Youth

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Policy: Proposed Regulations

Proposed Regulations Governing Unexcused Absences and Truancy

Purpose:

- **Provide consistency in collection and reporting school attendance data**
- **Promote examination and evaluation of attendance patterns and early intervention**
- **Provide guidance on student attendance policies**



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Proposed Regulations Governing Unexcused Absences and Truancy

Status:

- Representative advisory committee identified issues
- NOIRA submitted on July 22, 2010
- Public comment period ended November 12
- Scheduled for Board of Education action on January 13, 2011



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Proposed Regulations Governing Unexcused Absences and Truancy

Content:

- Part I, defines terms, such as “attendance plan,” “unexcused absence,” and “truancy”
- Part II, articulates procedures and responsibilities for intervention, according to Code § 22.1-258
- Part III, describes data collection and reporting requirements



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Proposed Regulations Governing Unexcused Absences and Truancy

Implementation:

- **Guidance manual: Present best practices and strategies**
- **Workshops: Review regulations and train according to manual**
- **Web sessions and site**

Policy: Regulatory Action

Standards of Accreditation

- **Graduation and Completion Index effective for 2011-2012 academic year, based on 2010-2011 academic year data**
- **Academic and Career Plan, beginning in middle school, effective 2011-2012 academic year**

VDOE Resources: Data Systems

Virginia Early Warning System

- Tool to identify rising ninth graders as on or off track for graduation with a diploma
- Documentation of intervention, monitoring of progress
- Student, school, and division level reports
- Available to school divisions in December



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Data Systems

Virginia Watch List Report

- K-12 resource for identification of students needing extra support
- Indicators used: academic performance, attendance, over-age status, and retention



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VDOE Resources: Technical Assistance

Visions to Practice Annual Institute

- Virginia Department of Education's cross divisional three-day summer institute for school personnel, including State Operated Programs and Department of Corrections
- "Seven Million Minutes from Pre-Kindergarten to Graduation"



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Visions to Practice (2009 and 2010)

- Student and Parent Engagement
- Research and Policy
- Academic and Social Success
- Community/Business Partnerships
- VDOE Initiatives
- Effective/Promising School Division Practices



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Technical Assistance

Strengthening Connections: Weaving a Network of Support annual conference

- Coordination of student services (school climate, mental health, substance use, foster care, homelessness, health, dropout)
- Best practices in prevention and intervention

Technical Assistance

Ongoing Initiatives, Training, and Support

- School Improvement
- Response to Intervention
- I'm Determined
- Literacy Council
- Regional dropout prevention summits and seminars